IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LOUIS PAUL DEISS ET AL.

Serial No.: Unknown

In re application of:

Filed: Herewith

For: GENE IDENTIFICATION METHOD

Our File No.: 0168.00079

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please preliminarily amend the above-captioned patent application prior to examination:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title, please insert the following subparagraph:

- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/284,782, filed July 6, 1999, which is a National Phase of International Serial No. PCT/US97/20989, filed November 12, 1997. —

Page 4, line 5, after "library" please delete the period and insert the following paragraphs:

